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[Redacted]

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12 OCT 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, CIA Reconnaissance Programs

SUBJECT: Program Progress Report

Forwarded herewith are three copies of the IDEALIST  
Program Progress Report for the period 1 July 1971 -  
30 September 1971.

[Redacted]

Brigadier General, USAF  
Director of Special Activities

Attachments -

As stated [Redacted]

Declassification Review by  
NGA

**DD/S&T  
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Section 1

IDEALIST

DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY AND PROGRESS

(1 July 1971 - 30 September 1971)

I. AIRFRAME

A. Loan of Aircraft - One U-2R aircraft, serial number 058 was delivered to the Lockheed facility at Palmdale, California, on 16 August 1971. This aircraft will be used by the USAF U-2R Program and is on loan for an indefinite period. Loan of this aircraft leaves four U-2R aircraft assigned for use in support of the IDEALIST Program.

B. Light Weight HF Radio - Production of the new Light Weight HF Radio, 718U-7, for use with U-2R aircraft, is on schedule. First production delivery of this radio is anticipated during February 1972.

C. U-2R Flight Test and Operational Training Summary

1. IDEALIST Program accomplishments in U-2R aircraft, including attrition, since introduction, were 7315 hours on 2221 sorties, as of 30 September 1971.

2. Flight test and operational summary data for July, August, and September 1971 is depicted below:

	<u>1 JUL-30 SEP</u> <u>FLTS.</u>	<u>1 JUL-30 SEP</u> <u>TIME</u>
1 - 051	37	106.1
2 - 053	31	103.1
3 - 054	37	100.6
4 - 055	45	118.7
5 - 058*	<u>16</u>	<u>49.8</u>
TOTAL	166	478.3

\* Dropped from reporting effective 16 August 1971, until returned from loan status.

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## II. PAYLOAD

A. Q-Bay Preconditioning - Four production units of the Q-Bay Preconditioning Cart have been delivered by Lockheed. The first production unit has accrued over 50 hours operating time during performance tests and preconditioning of Baker, Iris, and "H" cameras. Data collection is continuing for development of field procedures and techniques for the most effective use of the cart under various ambient temperature and humidity conditions.

B. "H" Sensor - Delay in production of basic glass for the new "H" lens system will cause delivery to be slipped until late January or early February 1972. A new gyro package which improves stability has been incorporated into "H" Sensor, serial number 002. New light weight mounts, which eliminate the heavy structure previously deemed necessary for stability, have been developed. Subsequent to flight test of the new gyro and light weight mounts, at Detachment G, it is anticipated the "H" Sensors will be swapped between Detachments G [ ]

C. "B" Sensor - Production of the new F8 lens is on schedule. First delivery of the new lens for this system is anticipated during March 1972.

D. Ultra Thin Base Film - Service Bulletins are now available for use of Ultra Thin Base Film with "H" Sensors. Test rolls of Ultra Thin Base Film have been provided to field sites for checkout of processing procedures and to gain processing experience.

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D. System 17B - A letter requesting funding and procurement authorization for three additional Light Weight System 17B units has been forwarded to the DNRO. Procurement and delivery of these units will be contingent upon DNRO approval and funding.

IV. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

V. AERO MEDICAL AND LIFE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

A. Medical Activities

1. There have been no serious medical or surgical illnesses in local or field personnel during this quarter.

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3. [ ] has been in charge of Personal Equipment since the inception of the IDEALIST Program in 1956. Following his retirement SMSgt. [ ] accepted contract status in this position.

B. Life Support Equipment

1. Six-Line Release - The test program covering Engineering Change Proposal, ECP U-2R-61, concerning control of personnel parachutes has been completed. No structural degradation of the RQ 225 parachute was observed, however, subjective critiques by individual experimental parachutists indicated that it was quite fatiguing to gain directional control. A final report is expected in early fall.

2. S1010 Pilot Protective Assembly (PPA) Design Study - A design study has been initiated to determine the feasibility of improving the current active full-pressure suit PPA (S1010, S901J, and A/P 22S-6). One purpose is to determine the degree of multi-mission capability which might be achieved with a single basic protective assembly using interchangeable components. The primary effort initially will be in the helmet improvement area with a Fixed Price Level-of-Effort contract.

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3. Low-Flight Regulator Relocation - Relocation of the low-flight breathing regulator from the vest pocket of the low-flight harness to the right shoulder strap has been accomplished. Repositioning was done to enable the pilot to breathe underwater upside down. Tests during "Dilbert Dunker" training in June 1971 dramatically demonstrated that the previous regulator location would not allow enough pressure for oxygen delivery to the mask when the crew member was upside down underwater.

4. Allowable Leak Tolerance in the S1010 PPA - Consideration is being given to increasing the allowable leak tolerance in the S1010 full-pressure suit. Present specifications allow a maximum bleed of 3400 cc/minute. By increasing the total allowable leak, costly maintenance changes of main entry zippers, etc. may be reduced, still providing a safe, reliable pressure suit.

C. Training

1. Physiological Training - [redacted] Support personnel on flying status and the [redacted] were given classroom lectures, and altitude chamber [redacted]

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2. Physiological Training - Detachment G - Physiological training including classroom lectures, pressure suit chamber flights, and explosive decompressions were accomplished on the two new [redacted]

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3. Tropical and Seacoast Survival Training - During the week of 26 July 1971, Tropical and Seacoast Survival Training was conducted for the [redacted] The new training area on the [redacted] was utilized for the tropical phase and [redacted] was used for the sea-coast phase. During the following week, the new [redacted] were given the same training. All students performed in an outstanding fashion during the training exercise.

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4. Survival and Flight Equipment (SAFE) Meeting - Major  
[redacted] attended the annual  
SAFE Association meeting held in Las Vegas, Nevada, the week  
of 27 September 1971.

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Section 2

IDEALIST

OPERATIONAL SUMMARY AND STATUS

(1 July 1971 - 30 September 1971)

I. OPERATIONAL MISSION SUMMARY

Seven IDEALIST/TACKLE operational missions were alerted during this period. Two were flown, two were cancelled at the request of the [REDACTED] two were cancelled due to deteriorating weather, and one was cancelled at the discretion of the Director of Special Activities. All missions prior to 5 August 1971 were planned to be flown no closer than 20 nautical miles to the mainland China coast. Subsequent to 5 August 1971 missions were planned to approach no closer to the coast than 25 nautical miles. Following is a summary of missions completed:

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II. GENERAL

A. RED DOT - Three sorties were flown in support of continuing film tests using various camera configurations in the U-2R.

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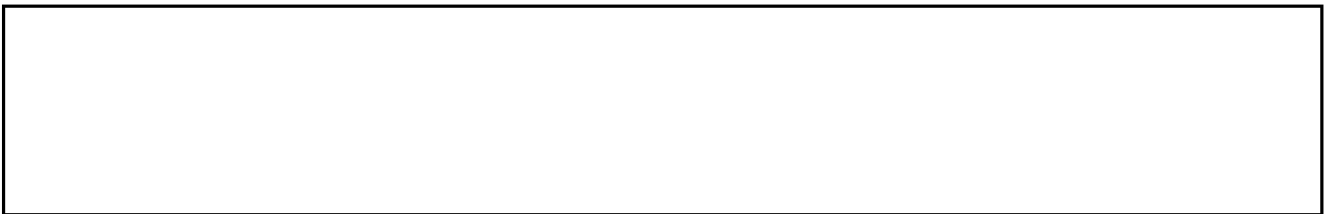
B. Hurricane Base Line - Three sorties were flown to obtain photography of Gulf Coast areas for the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

C. Hatch Blower - One sortie was flown in support of new Q-Bay Hatch Blower test.

D. SENIOR PEG - One sortie was flown to determine data base in preparation for installation and testing of new Berry Active Isolator Mount for the Iris camera.

E. Resolution Test - Eight sorties were flown to establish resolution base lines for various cameras at specific altitudes.

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H. Preconditioning Test - Five sorties were flown in support of Q-Bay preconditioning Cart test.

I. System 13C Mod D - Four sorties were flown in support of system qualification.

J. Pilot Training - Fifteen initial qualification sorties were flown by the two new [redacted] flew six missions prior to being eliminated from training due to his inability to properly fly the aircraft.

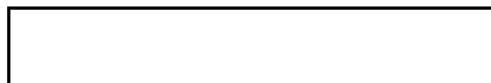
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### III. PILOT AND AIRCRAFT STATUS (AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 1971)

#### A. Detachment "G" (Edwards AFB - North Base)

Aircraft 2 U-2R

Pilots \*5 American



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